

inputting a specified image for a template image;
inputting a specified image for an input image;
calculating an edge normal direction vector of said specified image;
generating an evaluation vector from said edge normal direction vector;
normalizing said evaluation vector of said template image by the number of edge normal
direction vectors;
subjecting said evaluation vector to orthogonal transformation;
performing a product sum calculation of corresponding spectral data for each evaluation
vector that has been subjected to orthogonal transformation;
subjecting a result of said product sum calculation to inverse orthogonal transformation
and generating a map of similarity values; and
a formula of said similarity values, said orthogonal transformation, and said inverse
orthogonal transformation each have linearity.

7. (Currently Amended) The image processing method of Claim [[2]] 6, further comprising the
steps of:

reducing a data amount using complex conjugate properties of orthogonal transformation
before performing a product sum calculation; and
restoring said data amount after performing said product sum calculation.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An image processing method of ~~Claim 2,~~ further comprising the
steps of:

inputting a specified image for a template image;
inputting a specified image for an input image;
enlarging/reducing said template image to various sizes; ~~and~~
calculating an edge normal direction vector of said specified image;
generating an evaluation vector from said edge normal direction vector;
subjecting said evaluation vector to orthogonal transformation;
subjecting said evaluation vector of each size to addition processing;
performing a product sum calculation of corresponding spectral data for each evaluation
vector that has been subjected to orthogonal transformation;
subjecting a result of said product sum calculation to inverse orthogonal transformation
and generating a map of similarity values; and
a formula of said similarity values, said orthogonal transformation, and said inverse
orthogonal transformation each have linearity.

9. (Original) The image processing method of Claim 8, wherein, for said template image, said addition processing of said evaluation vector is carried out after executing said step of compressing each evaluation vector so as to reduce the processing amount.

10. (Currently Amended) The image processing method of Claim [[2]] 6, wherein said template image is an image of a typified face.

wherein a result obtained by subjecting data of this peak pattern to said orthogonal transformation is applied to a product sum calculation of said multiplication unit.

25. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of Claim ~~[[19]]~~ 22, further comprising:

a mask pattern processing part operable to form a mask pattern that depends on said template image and generate data obtained by subjecting data of this mask pattern to orthogonal transformation and by compressing it, wherein a processing result of said mask pattern processing part is applied to a product sum calculation of said multiplication unit.

26. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 25, wherein said mask pattern includes a mean of a number of pixels inside an image of said template image.

27. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of Claim ~~[[19]]~~ 22, further comprising:

a symmetric vector generation unit operable to process positive and negative signs of said evaluation vector of an original template image recorded in said recording unit, and further operable to generate an evaluation vector of a bilaterally symmetric image with respect to said original template image, wherein said evaluation vector generated by said symmetric vector generation unit is applied to a product sum calculation of said multiplication unit.

a face image cutting-out unit operable to separate an input image into only a face image and parts excluding said face image on the basis of an extracted face image;

an image correction unit operable to edit only said face image; and

an image synthesizing unit operable to combine an edited face image with parts excluding said face image and outputting them.

32. (Original) The image processing method of Claim 10, further comprising:

cutting out a face image from said input image on the basis of an extracted face image;

extracting a facial inner image from said face image that has been cut out;

calculating a feature that correct said face image on the basis of said extracted face image;

determining a correction function on said basis of said obtained feature; and

applying image correction based on said determined correction function at least onto said face image that has been cut out.

33. (Original) The image processing method of Claim 32, wherein said feature is a combination of at least two of brightness, chroma average, and hue average.

34. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus of [[19]] 22, further comprising:

a face image cutting-out unit operable to cut out a face image from said input image on a basis of an extracted face image;

